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薔薇のマリア

3

ai-meet-u

漫画
是美三々
Misuzu Sunao

原作
十文字青
Ao Jyumonji

キャラクター原案
BUNBUN

A BRAVE HEART OF RED ROSE

To enjoy the transient reality, we all have our own
way to live with loving, protecting, and respecting.

II

Kadokawa Comics A

薔薇のマリア

ai-meet-u

3

漫画：是美三々
原作：十文字青
キャラクター原案：BUNBUN

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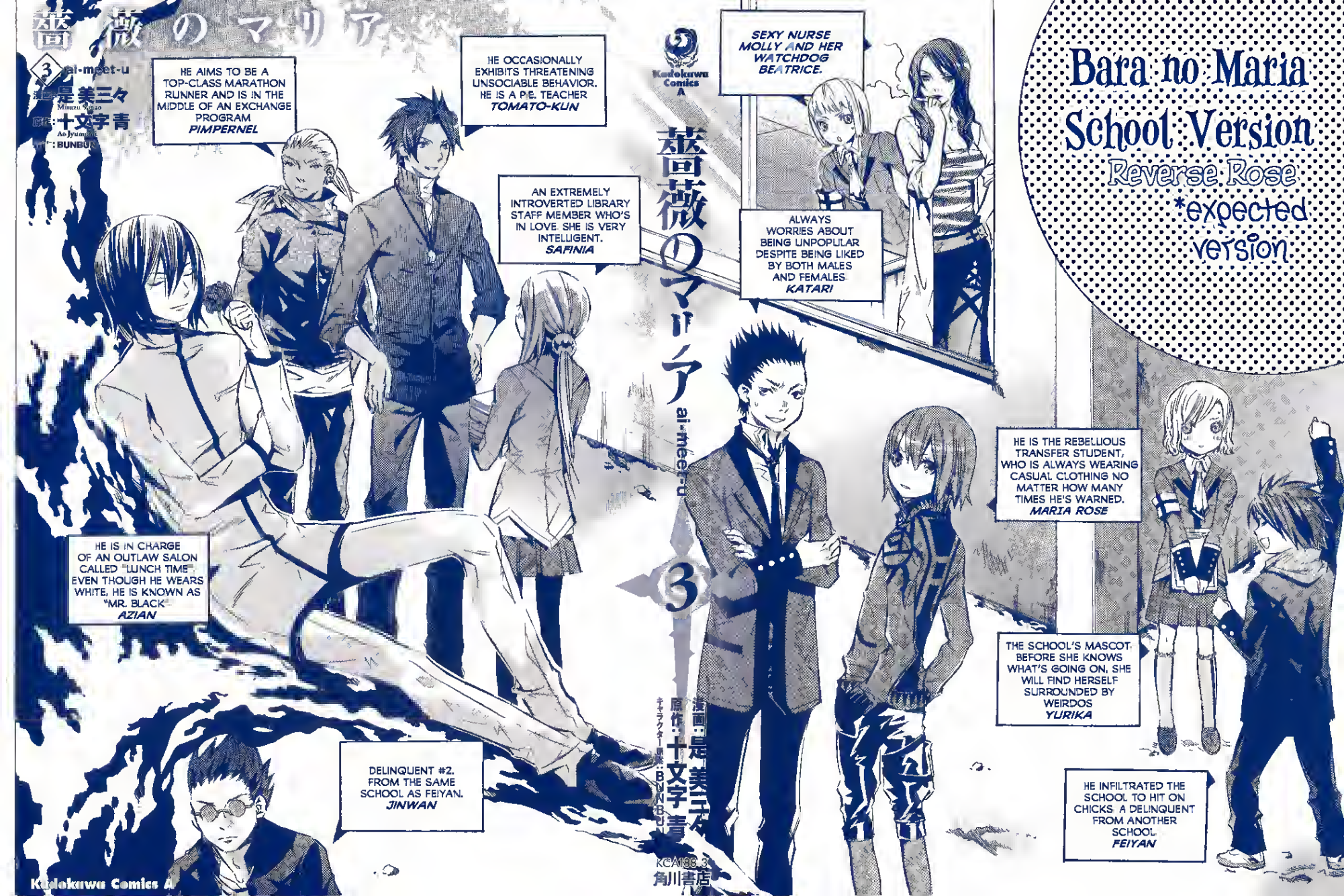
探索に向かったZOO一行は、迷宮内の罠にはまり
皆バラバラになってしまう。
窮地に陥ったマリアローズのもとに駆けつけたアジアンも
何故か様子がおかしく事態は悪くなるばかり。
ついにはマリアローズに復讐するためにあの悪魔が現れるのだった!?
マリアローズの愛と友情と冒険の物語、感動(?)の完結巻!

A BRAVE HEART OF RED ROSE

Kadokawa Comics


薔薇のマリア
3
ai-meet-u
是美三々
Mimizu Sanzo
原作：十文字青
Ao Jyumonji
BUNBU
HE AIMS TO BE A TOP-CLASS MARATHON RUNNER AND IS IN THE MIDDLE OF AN EXCHANGE PROGRAM
PIMPERNEL
HE OCCASIONALLY EXHIBITS THREATENING UNSOCIABLE BEHAVIOR. HE IS A P.E. TEACHER
TOMATO-KUN
AN EXTREMELY INTROVERTED LIBRARY STAFF MEMBER WHO'S IN LOVE. SHE IS VERY INTELLIGENT.
SAFINIA
HE IS IN CHARGE OF AN OUTLAW SALON CALLED "LUNCH TIME". EVEN THOUGH HE WEARS WHITE, HE IS KNOWN AS "MR. BLACK"
AZIAN
DELINQUENT #2. FROM THE SAME SCHOOL AS FEIYAN.
JINWAN
Kadokawa Comics A
薔薇のマリア
ai-meet-u
3
漫画：是美三々
原作：十文字青
キャラクター原案：BUNBU
KCA189-3
角川書店
SEXY NURSE MOLLY AND HER WATCHDOG BEATRICE.
ALWAYS WORRIES ABOUT BEING UNPOPULAR DESPITE BEING LIKED BY BOTH MALES AND FEMALES
KATARI
Bara no Maria
School Version
Reverse Rose
*expected version
HE IS THE REBELLIOUS TRANSFER STUDENT, WHO IS ALWAYS WEARING CASUAL CLOTHING NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES HE'S WARNED.
MARIA ROSE
THE SCHOOL'S MASCOT. BEFORE SHE KNOWS WHAT'S GOING ON, SHE WILL FIND HERSELF SURROUNDED BY WEIRDOS
YURIKA
HE INFILTRATED THE SCHOOL TO HIT ON CHICKS. A DELINQUENT FROM ANOTHER SCHOOL
FEIYAN
Kadokawa Comics A

A Brave Heart of
RedRose
Even in the transient reality, we all have our own lives worth loving, protecting, and respecting.
薔薇のマリア
漫画：三々 Mimi Sanzo
原作：十文字青 Ao Jyumonji
キャラクター原案：BUNBUN

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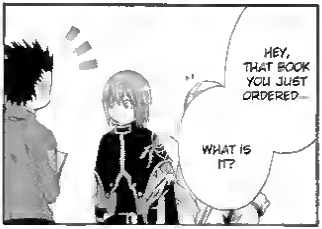
IT FEELS LIKE IT'S BEEN A WHILE, BUT...
TODAY, WE'LL BE DOING OUR NORMAL JOB
WHICH IS, TO ENTER AN UNDER-GROUND DUNGEON
chapter.9 ai-meet-u
SORRY ABOUT THAT!
MAKING YOU COME ALL THIS WAY FOR ME...

THE MYSTERIES OF FISH
Special Edition: Mimicry and Gender Change


HEY, THAT BOOK YOU JUST ORDERED...
WHAT IS IT?

—
A GUIDE ON HOW TO BECOME A PART OF YOUR FAMILY?
IDIOT!
THE FISH ECOLOGY IS LIKE A TREASURE TROVE OF MYSTERIES!
Don't cloud your eyes!! Hmph becoming a part of my family indeed...
FOR AN INTELLECTUAL ADVENTURER SUCH AS MYSELF IT'S STIMULATING!
IT EVEN INCLUDES HIDDEN HINTS ON THE APPLICATION OF ALCHEMY!
LET ME GIVE YOU AN EXAMPLE...
How's this any different from what you used to wear?
It suits you very well!
Does it look good?
WHATEVER NOT INTERESTED
THE TWO OF US TOOK A DETOUR FOR A BOOK LIKE THIS...
WELL THEN... LET'S GO... TO DI...
AND MEET UP WITH TOMATO-KUN AND THE OTHERS

I HEARD THAT THERE WERE SOME WEIRD STUFF GOING ON OVER AT D1.
SURE, BUT RIGHT NOW...
This r...ld... it c...mmates... right?
IT'S PROBABLY JUST SOME OPTICAL ILLUSION BY A MASTER ARTIST OR SOME-THING
THERE'S AN ENTRANCE THAT YOU CAN SEE BUT CAN'T ENTER
IMAGE

YOU THERE
THE UNFOR-TUNATE LOOKING YOUNG GIRL

WHAT?! DOES HE HAVE A SUPER DRAWING ABILITY?
YOUR IDEA IS TOO FAR-FETCHED.
You sure are flexible.

I'LL HAVE A LOOK AT YOUR FORTUNE FOR YOU
FOR 3000 DOLLARS PER TWENTY MINUTES
MM...!!! YOU!!!
JUDGING BY YOUR FACE, YOU MUST HAVE HORRIBLE LUCK WITH MEN!!!
...ERR... UMM...
I'M...
I'M NOT A WOM—
In fact, they're entwined!
EVEN WITHOUT SAYING THAT, WE ALREADY KNOW IT'S HORRIBLE!
SORRY, BUT WE'RE IN A HURRY RIGHT NOW—

FUFU... THAT'S TRUE
YOU SEEM TO ATTRACT... THE WEIRDEST MEN DON'T YOU...
YOU'RE GOING TO GET HIM MAD SAFINIA
Ouch Ow! Ow!
ESPECIALLY A CERTAIN SOMEONE FROM "LUNCH TIME".
PLAYING INTO THE HANDS OF THAT COMPLETE WEIRDO,
IT CAN'T JUST BE BECAUSE OF HIS PREFERENCES
THERE MUST HAVE BEEN SOME EVENT THAT STARTED ALL THIS

THE START OF ALL THE STALKING...
THERE'S STILL... TIME BEFORE... WE REACH... D1...
I, TOO... WOULD LOVE TO... HEAR IT...

IT'S NOTHING SPECIAL
IT WAS JUST LIKE ANY OTHER DAY
IT ALL STARTED

EXACTLY ONE YEAR AGO.
BEFORE I ENTERED ZOO...
—0896.7.2—
BACK WHEN I WAS STILL
WORKING SOLO AS A CRACKER...
I worked hard the whole day and this is all I got.
Oh...
I PROTECTED MYSELF WITH A BARBED WALL.
"TRUST ONLY YOURSELF".
YOU'RE ANNOYING. GET LOST.
YOU'RE CUTE. WANT TO COME ON A RAID WITH ME?

IN THE UNDER-GROUND FILLED WITH RUFFIANS,
IF YOU DON'T STAY SHARP, YOU WON'T SURVIVE.
BUT, EVEN SO
YO.
Ohhh what a cute-
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
ON THAT DAY,
I CHOSE THE WRONG FERSON TO FISS OFF

HE
HEHE HE
How funny!
WHAT DO I WANT, YOU ASK?
AH, CRAP
THOSE EYES... ! THESE GUYS
ARE JUNKIES!
LE
LET GO...!
Yahoo~ Strip Strip~
Money~ Money~

I'M TELLING YOU... TO...
STOP...

PLE... PLEASE...

STOP...

STO...
STOP...

HUH?!
XXXX— RIGHT?
WHAT'S WITH THIS GUY? IS HE A KID?
EH?
HMM,
FOUR GROWN MEN RAPING A GIRL

UH?
UMM...
WHO?
HUH?
WHILE IT DOES SEEM LIKE IT'S FUN
IT'S NOT VERY TASTEFUL
HIS COLD SKIN FELT AS IF HE HAD NO FLESH NOR BLOOD
AND HIS THIN, BLUE EYES
...MADE HIM LOOK LIKE AS IF HE WAS A DOLL
THAT WAS MY FIRST IMPRESSION OF HIM...
!

DON'T MIND ME
I'M JUST PASSING BY.
I HAD NO INTENTION OF BEING ANYTHING MORE THAN JUST A CURIOUS ONLOOKER.
AARG GHHH!!
AH?!
FOR SOMEONE LIKE YOU WHO DOESN'T EVEN SPEAK A HUMAN LANGUAGE AND JUST RESORTS TO VIOLENCE,
ALTHOUGH IT MIGHT BE A BIT LATE TO SAY THIS, BUT...
I GUESS IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M SAYING.
UGH!

BL... BLACK...
SO, NEXT TIME
YOU TRY IT, I'LL KILL YOU
BUT I HAVE NO OBLIGATION TO HOLD BACK AGAINST JUNKIE RAPISTS
IT'S NOT LIKE I INTEND TO SAY ANYTHING ABOUT YOUR PREFERENCES...
YOU'D BE BETTER OFF NOT PICKING A FIGHT WITH ME...
TORN DARK CLOTHING...
THIN BLUE EYES... NO WAY...
CARNAGE DOLL...!!!
?
"CARNAGE" WHAT'S THAT?

MY, MY
HOW HEARTLESS LEAVING BEHIND YOUR COMPANION LIKE THAT
EVEN THOUGH I WENT THROUGH ALL THAT TROUBLE OF NOT KILLING THEM FOR YOU
SO UMM...
I REALLY WAS JUST PASSING BY, AND
IT JUST HAPPENED TO TURN OUT THIS WAY BUT...
HOW SHOULD I PUT THIS... IN OTHER WORDS ARE YOU ALRIGHT?

THIS MIGHT SOUND RUDE, BUT...
SOMEONE BEAUTIFUL LIKE YOU WOULD HAVE FETCHED A HIGH PRICE...
THERE'S ALSO THE POSSIBILITY THAT YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN SOLD OFF AFTER THE DEED WAS DONE...
I HAVE NO INTENTION OF MAKING YOU REPAY ME
YOU WERE IN A PRETTY BAD SITUATION
TO BEGIN WITH, YOU WERE TOO CARE-LESS
FOR A GIRL SUCH AS YOURSELF TO BE ALL ALONE...
WORST CASE SCE-NARIO YOU COULD'VE BEEN RAPED AND KILLED AFTER-WARDS, YOU KNOW?

AS IF I'D BE ALL RIGHT...

His clothes are what you'd expect from a stereotypical exhibitionist!
THIS GUY MIGHT JUST BE...
A BEAST WHO KILLED ANOTHER BEAST!
THERE'S NO NEED TO STARE AT ME WITH THAT EXPRES-SION.

WHO ARE YOU CALLING A GIRL?
CORRECT YOURSELF
HUH?
HEY...
WHAT DID YOU SAY JUST NOW?
EH? I WAS SAYING FOR A GIRL, SUCH—
AH!
ERM...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "WHO"—?
AH... YOU!
GET YOUR EYES CHECKED, YOU WORTHLESS JERK!
SOMEONE LIKE YOU SHOULD JUST DIE! DIE A HUNDRED TIMES OVER, AND JUST KEEP DYING!
I'M NO GIRL!!!
LIKE HELL I AM!!
BUT NO WAY YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?

AFTER THAT ABSOLUTELY HORRIBLE ENCOUNTER...
SEVEN DAYS LATER...
Th's doesn't seem like the reason for stalking at all...
Just wait. There's more to it!

I JUST HAPPENED TO HAVE THIS URGE TO
GO TO THE LIZARDMEN'S DEN DARNAM LANE
AND WHEN I WAS SO ABSORBED IN HUNTING LIZARDMEN...
!

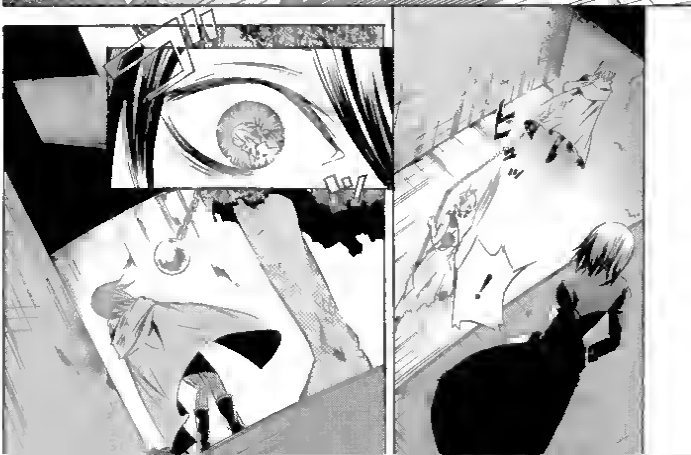
THIS TIME, EVERYTHING WENT TOO WELL,
AND I LET MY GUARD DOWN
..THANK GOD!
WITH THIS I'LL BE ABLE TO LIVE IN EASE FOR A MONTH!
ホッ

PROFIT BEFORE YOUR EYES LEAVES YOU VULNERABLE
SOMETHING LIKE THAT
IS COMMON SENSE FOR A CRACKER

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A WHILE, I WON'T BE COUNTING MY CHICKENS BEFORE THEY'VE HATCHED
WHOA... WHAT SHOULD I DO...?
SHOULD I SPEND IT TO DO SOME MAINTENANCE ON MY EQUIPMENT? AH, MAYBE I SHOULD BUY A NEW ONE
OK! I BETTER HEAD BACK
OOPS DID I DROP THIS?
HOW DANGEROUS
?
WHAT'S THAT SOUND?

...!!!

I CAN'T TAKE ON THAT MANY ALL AT ONCE!
FOR NOW I SHOULD RUN...


!

CAN YOU STAND?
SHUT IT.
YOUR JOB IS FINISHED, SWORD
THIS GUY AGAIN —!
YOU ARE...
JUST WHAT
ARE YOU AFTER

OH PLEASE
THIS GUY'S A BEAST, TOO! I'LL GET HIM...
YOU...
EPI-CENTRE AND ALL!
!
THIS PLACE ISN'T GOOD...
You understand, don't you? Since you're not a girl
YOU ARE...

I WON'T DO ANY-THING
IT SEEMED LIKE YOU'D GO CRAZY SO I JUST STOPPED YOUR MOVE-MENTS
JUST... STAY STILL FOR A BIT.
ger'ant.

SORRY, OH...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
BUT--
I'M TELLING YOU...
TO LET GO OF ME!
LET GO
WHAT'S WITH THIS... I DECIDED TO COME TO DARNAM LANE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A WHILE...
AND IT TURNS OUT LIKE THIS... I EVEN GOT SAVED IN THE END
WHY...? I JUST DON'T UNDER-STAND
AND THIS IS THE SECOND TIME TOO. YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME

EVEN THOUGH WE'RE NOT EVEN ACQUAINTED...
I'VE BEEN TELLING YOU THAT I'M NOT AFTER ANYTHING. IT WAS ALL A COINCIDENCE.
...I'M NOT GOING TO THANK YOU.
THAT'S FINE.
I SAVED YOU BECAUSE I WANTED TO.
SHALL I GIVE YOU A HAND?
I DON'T NEED IT.
YOU HAVE NO REASON WHATSOEVER
TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
REASON, HUH.
YOU SURE ARE STUBBORN.
!
HEH.
?
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?

IT WAS A COINCI-DENCE. IN OTHER WORDS, IT WAS INEVITA-BLE.
I FELL IN LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT.
DO YOU
NEED ANY MORE REASON THAN THAT?

AND THAT'S ALL
I SEE. SO THAT'S HOW IT IS
...IS IT ALL RIGHT IF I POINT SOMETHING OUT TO YOU?
WHAT IS IT?
Don't just subjectively turn it into a different story!
THE BEGINNING OF YOUR BURNING LOVE...
SO IN THE END, YOU WERE JUST BRAGGING
HOW ROMANTIC...
I can't keep up with this
NO, YOU'RE WRONG THAT WAS JUST THE BEGINNING OF A TRAGEDY

I'd fall for him without any hesitation. He's like a prince!
AZIAN ISN'T A PERVERT AT ALL.
IN FACT, HE'S ACTUALLY PRETTY COOL.
SINCE WHEN... DID HE... BECOME... A PERVERT?
WHAT A QUESTION TO ASK WITH A STRAIGHT FACE...
LET'S SEE
BY THE TIME I HAD MET EVERY-ONE FROM ZOO, IT WAS ALREADY BEYOND THE POINT OF NO RE-TURN
There's nothing soft attached to me!
Ooh, there's something soft press-ing against my back
THE TURNING POINT... WHEN WAS IT?
I MEAN... THAT'S RIGHT.
IF HE WASN'T SUCH A PERVERT...

I WOULDN'T HAVE MET EVERYONE FROM ZOO IN THE FIRST PLACE
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WHEN I WAS BEING ATTACKED BY THAT HORNY GUY IN THE STREETS
No, I won't! There's no way I would go stop it!
It's OK, Maria, Soon you'll learn to like it!
YOU OVER THERE, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
BEING SAVED BY HIM AND GETTING TAKEN TO THE OFFICE WAS THE TRIGGER OF OUR MEETING
A sign?
"RECRUITING! Aim for enlightenment! Come on over! We're now taking applications!"
HOW SCARY!! LATE BLOOMING YOUTHS!
on the street?!
WITHOUT... THAT PERVERT... WE... WOULDN'T BE HERE... NOW...
I'll probably spend my youth...
That's... true...
Some kind... of guidance...
CAN WE PLEASE STOP WITH THE SUMMARIZING AND DISTANT GAZES?

THAT'S WHY I DON'T THINK I NEED TO THANK HIM
In the end I've been a victim up until today
YOU...
THE ONE WITH THE RED HAIR.
WHAT'S WITH TODAY?
WHAT IS IT? I HAVE ABSOLUTELY
NO INTEREST IN FORTUNE TELLING AT ALL
AH, SORRY ABOUT THAT ALL OF A SUDDEN.
THERE WAS A FELLOW THAT I'VE BECOME INTERESTED IN
...

JUST UNTIL THE MARK ON YOUR FOREHEAD DISAPPEARS,
IT'D BE BEST FOR YOU TO STAY AWAY FROM DANGEROUS PLACES
YOU'LL BE VISITED BY AN UNBELIEVABLE DISASTER.

AND THEN YOU'LL OFFER ME A POT OR STONE "FOR MY PROTECTION". RIGHT?
THAT'S WHAT THEY ALL SAY
NOT TO MENTION, I'M A CRACKER

COME ON, WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
LET'S GO EVERYONE.
AH, BUT MARIA...
IF I STAYED AWAY FROM DANGEROUS PLACES I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO MAKE A LIVING
I KNOW THAT AS CRACKERS
WE HAVE A JOB WHOSE FUTURE IS ALWAYS UNCERTAIN, BUT

I HATE PEOPLE WHO HAVE THE GUTS TO IMPOSE THINGS ON OTHERS LIKE THAT...
WHAT'S UP WITH THAT KIND OF PEOPLE?
I MEAN, WHAT MARK WAS SHE TALKING ABOUT ANYWAY?
UMM...
IT'S... ON YOUR FOREHEAD...

AH, NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
YOU DO SEEM TO HAVE AN ACNE OR SOMETHING THERE
It's not cleared yet though
EH, NO WAY!
AWW

THAT MARK ON YOUR FOREHEAD*...
IT'S... THE PLACE WHERE... OMENS OF IMPENDING DISASTER... ARE EASY... TO APPEAR...
THE FORTUNE TELLER JUST NOW IS KNOWN... FOR HER ACCURACY...
NO... NO WAY...
I DON'T BELIEVE IN STUFF LIKE THAT...
NO NEED TO GET SO SCARED
I ONLY BELIEVE IN GOOD OUTCOMES...
*technically it's a "determined part" of your forehead where your desires, luck, happiness or unhappiness are all shown
EVERYONE!
Say what?!
That's why you die sometimes

YURIKA!
DID YOU MEET TOMATO-KUN?
WE HAVEN'T MET HIM WHY?
THIS IS SO WEIRD
HE SUDDENLY DISAP-PEARED
SO I THOUGHT HE HAD GONE TO PICK UP YOU GUYS
WHAT HAPPENED LATER ON THAT DAY
WE MADE A SILENT PACT
TO NEVER SPEAK OF IT AGAIN
IT WOULD ONLY LEAD US TO SHARE A HORRIFICALLY TRAUMATIC EXPERIENCE

chapter.10 Xi Shi* Hotel

*Xi Shi is one of the four renowned beauties of Ancient China.

UNDER-GROUND 01
THIS PLACE IS ACCESSIBLE BY USING MAGIC AS A "KEY"
IT'S RENOWNED TO HOLD THE DOOR TO THE "MAGIC SEALED PALACE"

HERE, STRANGE DEMONS APPEAR...
AND YOU CAN OFTEN COME ACROSS RARE ITEMS

LET'S SEE...
THAT'S WHY FOR TODAY'S JOB

WE WERE SECRETLY...
EXPECTING SOMETHING GOOD?
TOMATO-KUN HAS
SUDDENLY DISAPPEARED...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?

YOU SEE...
WE FINISHED OUR MEAL AND WERE WAITING FOR YOU ALL. BUT..
KATARI AND THE OTHERS
THEY'RE LATE
YURIKA
THERE'S SOMETHING THAT'S BEEN BOTHERING ME

THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU GUYS TO COME AS WELL.
I'M GOING TO GO CHECK IT OUT...
OK?
WE'LL GO WITH YOU.
SOME-ONE'S GOT TO STAY HERE
I'LL BE BACK SOON

SINCE HE SAID IT WAS "SOMETHING BOTHERING HIM" I THOUGHT FOR SURE
IT HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH MARIA AND THE OTHERS
SOMETHING THAT BO-THERS YOU AFTER A MEAL...

WHY IS IT MY FAULT?!
IT'S BECAUSE WE WERE LATE THAT WE GOT SEPA-RATED!
YOU TOOK YOUR SWEET TIME AT THE BOOKSTORE, REMEMBER?

I look a mess at how a man would think.
HE PROBABLY NEEDS TO USE THE TOILET OR SOMETHING.
HE'LL BE BACK SOON.
THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT.

BUT...
The books get in cost or plus they're... cheaper!
IF YOU'RE NICE TO THEM, IT WOULD BE HANDY WHEN YOU NEED TO ORDER STUFF!

INTENDED... TO MEET US... HERE
WOULDN'T THAT...MEAN THAT...HE...
THE FACT... THAT HE WAS... CONCERNED... ABOUT THIS PLACE...

HMMM... THAT'S RIGHT.
SOME-THING THAT...
TOMATO-KUN WOULD BE WORRIED ABOUT...
WHAT COULD IT BE...
HMM.
HAVE YOU NOTICED ANYTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY RECENTLY?
PIMP
TODAY... ON THE WAY TO IT,
A FORTUNE TELLER
TOLD ME, "SOMETHING TERRIBLE WILL BEFALL YOU"...

A FORTUNE TELLER TOLD YOU THAT
YOU WILL BE MET WITH UNBELIEVABLE DISASTER...
ON YOUR WAY HERE?
I WAS TOLD TO BUY THIS.
DID THEY TELL YOU ANYTHING ELSE?
YES
WAS HE ALWAYS THE TYPE TO GET WORKED UP OVER FORTUNE TELLING?
IT MUST BE BECAUSE OF THAT.
AH GEEZ... THAT'S OBVIOUSLY A TRICK TO GET SALES!
YOU SHOULDN'T GO FALLING FOR STUFF LIKE THIS!

HERE IN D), THERE'S A DOOR THAT YOU CAN SEE BUT YOU CAN'T ENTER!
WHAT DO YOU THINK WAS I TALKING ABOUT ON OUR WAY HERE?
I CAN'T TELL WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT IF YOU USE A PRONOUN LIKE THAT...
it's not like we're a married couple who has been together for a long time you know...
HE TOOK IT ALL IN WHEN I TOLD HIM ABOUT IT YESTERDAY
"can't enter" you say...?
what do you mean by that?
I haven't seen it myself so-
IT SHOULD BE CLOSE BY
LET'S GO!
I'LL STAY HERE
so we don't miss each other by accident
OK.
WE'LL SEE YOU LATER, THEN.

XI SHI HOTEL
One night: 5000 dollars
Rest (medical treatment included): 3000 Dollars

A TRAVELLER'S HOTEL IN THE MIDDLE OF A LABYRINTH...
IT HAS TO BE THE WORK OF EITHER AN EXTREMELY RECKLESS KIND SOUL OR A GREEDY PIONEER... RIGHT?
IT REALLY IS JUST A NORMAL WALL...
My reflection doesn't appear in the glass.
I THOUGHT WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO TAKE A BREAK HERE, BUT...
ISN'T THIS JUST A DRAWING?
DAMN...
WE'RE COVERED IN WOUNDS AFTER GETTING BACK FROM RAIDING, TOO...

I DON'T KNOW WHO DID THIS BUT IT REALLY PISSES ME OFF!
DIE!
It pisses me off even more that the prices were so cheap too!
WOW...
TAKING ADVANTAGE OF A CRACKER'S WEAKNESS...
Of course, it's because it's "super dream power."
WHAT A FIENDISHLY INGENIOUS YET MALICIOUS PRANK...
THERE'S NO SIGN OF TOMATO-KUN, EITHER
So this is the rumored
SHALL WE GO BACK?
YEAH.
HOW LAME.
LET'S GO BACK TO THE CITY...

!?
THERE HE IS.

HUH? WHERE...
PIMP, THAT'S A WALL!
YOU'RE GOING TO HIT IT...
!!

HUH...?
WH...?
AH....
PIMP!

RIDI-
CULOUS!
THIS IS
JUST A
WALL—
W—
JUST..
WHAT
THE...
KATARI!
WHOA!

HEY! WE SHOULD HEAD BACK FIRST
AND REGROUP WITH YURIKA!
IT LOOKS AS IF... HE... DIDN'T HEAR YOU! ?
AH, GEEZ...!

SORRY, SAFINIA!
CAN YOU HURRY AND GET YURIKA!?
O...OK!
.....JUST WHAT THE HE—

UGH!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, YOU IDIOT!
You hit my nose!
THAT'S MY LINE, WHAT WERE YOU DOING?!
DOING SOMETHING DEXTROUS LIKE MAKING YOUR HAND APPEAR IN MIDAIR...
My heart stopped beating for a moment there!
HUH?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT—

HUH?
WHERE'S THE EN-TRANCE?
THIS...
SITUATION...

WE'RE TRAPPED?!
HEY, COME HAVE A LOOK!
IT SEEMS JUST LIKE A NORMAL HOTEL
NORMAL ...
I DON'T THINK THIS SITUATION WOULD BE CONSIDERED NORMAL IN THE FIRST PLACE...
Reception Desk

Hotel Fees
One night
5000
Rest
(medical treatment included)
3000
IT REALLY IS JUST LIKE A NORMAL HOTEL THERE'S JUST NO WAY!
THIS IS D1, AFTER ALL
HEY, IT SAYS, "USING ONLY THE LIVELIEST INGREDIENTS"
I wonder if it's like a cake
WAIT! IT'D BE BETTER IF YOU DON'T GO TOUCHING THINGS. IT MIGHT BE A TRAP
IT IS SOME SORT OF SEALED LABYRINTH...?

WHOA! DON'T THROW IT AT ME!
THE INGRE-DIENT IS STILL ALIVE!
THIS ISN'T EDIBLE AT ALL!
Lick
OUCH...
WH
YOU SURE ARE CARELESS
THAT'S MY——

Welcome, everyone from ZOO. Please enjoy your stay.
"WELCOME"
"EVERY-ONE FROM ZOO"
"PLEASE ENJOY YOUR STAY"...?

WHY WOULD ANYONE...
THERE'S NO POINT STICKING AROUND HERE ANY LONGER
YURIKA AND THE OTHERS DON'T SEEM TO HAVE COME IN HERE TOO
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?
LET'S SEARCH FOR PIMP FIRST.

...HEY.
THIS IS GOING TO SOUND A BIT WEIRD, BUT...
MY CHEST HAS BEEN FEELING ITCHY FOR A WHILE NOW
I WONDER IF ITS GETTING STUFFY BE-CAUSE
I PUT THE BOOK I BOUGHT IN THERE
MYSTERIES OF FISH
Special Edition Ministry and Gender Change

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF THE PAGES GET SOAKED IN MY SWEAT...
JUST PUT SOME POWDER ON IT AND WHEN YOU WAKE UP IT'LL BE BETTER.
The kind which you use on a baby's bottom
Aie! *mumble*

!

PI, PIMP?
PIMP'S FOOTSTEPS DON'T SOUND LIKE THAT
THEN WHO ELSE COULD IT BE?
It shouldn't sound that strenuous when you're walking with sandals.
THE FACT THAT PIMP WENT
WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING...
IT MIGHT BE TOMATO-KUN, BUT ...
LET'S BE CAUTIOUS.
GOTCHA.

STEP
STEP
I HAVE A GREAT PLAN.
YOU CAN CALL OUT "WHO IS IT?"... IN A FALSETTO!
MAKE HIM LET HIS GUARD DOWN WITH A FEMALE VOICE AND WAIT AND SEE!
HUH?!
A FEMALE VOICE...
THERE'S NO WAY I'M DOING THAT!
YOU HAVE A HIGHER VOICE THAN I DO.
STEP
STEP
TSK.
THERE'S NO HELPING IT, THEN I'LL DO IT!
IF I TRIED, I'D SOUND JUST LIKE A TRANNY, Y'KNOW?
THAT WOULD MAKE THEM EVEN MORE CAUTIOUS!
I DON'T CARE. NO WAY I'M DOING IT!

WHO MIGHT THAT BE?
WHO...
Drink, play
HE SOUNDS JUST LIKE THE FEMALE OWNER OF A BAR!
101 ~ 115
In what kind of labyrinth could a transvestite appear rare? Only! It's just not possible!
SEE, LOOK AT WHAT I TOLD YOU! NOW THEY'RE EVEN MORE WARY OF US!
LIKE I CARE!
!!?

OH?
SORRY ABOUT THAT. I THOUGHT FOR SURE THAT...
IT WAS A DEMON OR SOMETHING, GIVEN THE SITUATION.
You had a sinister voice too.

TO THINK THAT YOU GUYS WOULD BE IN HERE, TOO
WE THOUGHT THE SAME THING!
I COULDN'T HELP BUT WANT TO TOUCH IT.
IT WAS DRAWN SO WELL THAT

WE'VE GOT TO FIND PIMP...
THAT MIGHT BE A BIT TROUBLE-SOME

WE THOUGHT IT WAS JUST A DRAWING BUT THEN PIMP WENT INTO IT...
OH!
THAT'S RIGHT! HAVE YOU SEEN PIMP?!

NO... I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM
I SEE...

I'M GUESSING
WHEN MOVING ALONE, HE COMPLETELY ERASES HIS PRESENCE
HE'S A PROFESSIONAL ASSASSIN
OF COURSE
BY THE WAY, KATARI...
WE WON'T MAKE HIM CRY, WE'LL PROPERLY SEARCH FOR HIM.
I never get found by anyone...
HE'S THE TYPE WHO NEVER GETS FOUND AND ENDS UP CRYING ON HIS WAY HOME WHEN PLAYING HIDE AND SEEK.

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING IN YOUR CHEST?
!
CHEST? ...AH! IT'S JUST A BOOK.
I DIDN'T WANT TO KEEP ON HOLDING IT SO I PUT IT IN MY SHIRT
THAT SEEMS JUST LIKE WHAT A SHOPLIFTER WOULD DO
WAIT...
!!?
EHH? YOU GUYS
ARE SCHEMING TO LAUGH AT ME FOR PANICKING, AREN'T YOU?

*In Japanese, the word for pervert = metamorphosis/ transformation as well

...LISTEN UP.
I SPOKE TO YOU BECAUSE I COULDN'T PUT UP WITH THE SNEEZING.
BECAUSE YOU SPOKE TO ME SUDDENLY, MY SNEEZE STOPPED HALFWAY, BETTY.

DO NOT INTERFERE WITH THE PRIVATE LIVES OF OTHERS...
YOU'RE GOING TO ASK ME WHAT HAVE I BEEN DOING DITCHING THE CLAN FOR THE PAST FEW DAYS, RIGHT?
WAS IT
THAT PERSON AGAIN?
I THOUGHT WE HAD AN UNWRITTEN RULE WITHIN OUR CLAN.

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT...
!
YOUR FACE TELLS ME YOU'RE CLEARLY THINKING ABOUT *THAT PERSON* AGAIN
How boring
ASKING EVEN THOUGH YOU ALREADY KNOW THE ANSWER IS EVEN MORE UNCOUTH
JUST THEN,
YOU SHOULD HAVE GOTTEN IT TOLD

ON OUR WAY HERE, REMEMBER?
THERE WAS A FORTUNE TELLER
YOUR LOVE FORTUNE
GOT WHAT TOLD?
There was.
OH...
THERE WAS A STRANGE EMPHASIS ON HER BREASTS.
IT WAS ABSURD

I WAS REFERRING TO "FORTUNE TELLING" AND THE "FORTUNE TELLER".
WHOSE BREASTS DID YOU JUST CALL ABSURD?
THOUGH IT MAY LOOK LIKE THIS, IT'S ACTUALLY BEING PUSHED UP WITH ALL HER MIGHT.

IT MIGHT BE SOME SORT OF ILLUSION OR MAGIC
IT'S WHAT YOU'D CALL A MURAL IN A RUSTY PLACE
YOU CAN'T GET INTO THAT HOTEL.

HMM?
THERE'S NOTHING WORSE THAN KNOWING HOW YOUR LOVE WILL TURN OUT.

A HOTEL WITHIN A LABY-RINTH...
HMM...

SO...
ABOUT OUR WORK TODAY...

...WHAT'S WRONG? YOU DON'T LOOK SO GOOD
SORRY BETTY.
THE FATIGUE MUST BE GETTING TO ME...
IS IT ALRIGHT IF I JUST HEAD BACK HOME TODAY?

Chapter 11 Cocoon

"YOU WILL BE MET WITH UNBELIEVABLE DISASTER"... HUH.
WE GOT SEPARATED FROM THE ELUSIVE PIMP...
AFTER ENTERING WHAT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE JUST A DRAWING ON THE WALL...
AND THEN, KATARI'S GENDER CHANGED

JUST AS SHE SAID, IT REALLY IS "UNBELIEVABLE"...
WHY THE HELL AM I A WOMAN?!
NOT TO MENTION ONE WITH A RIDICULOUSLY NICE BODY!
I DON'T GET THIS AT ALL!
WHOSE NIGHTMARE IS THIS?!
MINE?! NO, WAIT... TOMATO-KUN'S?!
AAAAAH!
Kataru calm down
TO BE HONEST... I'M TRYING MY BEST TO STAY SANE, TOO.
MYSTERIES OF FISH
Special Edition Mimicry and Gender Change

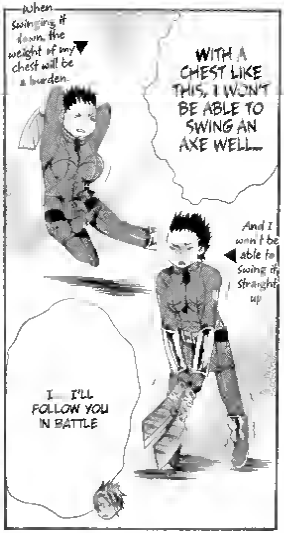
"THE FISH ECOLOGY IS A TREASURE TROVE OF MYSTERIES."
"AMONG THEM, THERE ARE RARE SPECIES WITH THE ABILITY TO CHANGE THEIR GENDER."
♀
The largest individuals, considered the "first in rank", become males.
"WHEN THERE'S ONLY ONE GENDER PRESENT WITHIN A LIMITED AREA,"
"SOME OF THE FISH WILL CHANGE GENDERS TO COMPEN-SATE."
"THERE'S NOTHING THAT CAN STIK YOUR INTEREST AND ANXIETY QUITE LIKE 'THE UNKNOWN'."

"IS THE SURVIVAL OF A SPECIES AN OBJECTIVE THAT CAN SURPASS EVEN GENDER?"
"INTEREST", HUH.
THE ONLY THING THAT'S BEING STIRRED UP AT THE MOMEN
MYSTERIES OF FISH
KATARI
IS ANXIETY

NOT TO MENTION, I'M A HUMAN! A HUMAN!
I SEE.
STOP ACTING LIKE IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU! IF YOU WERE IN MY POSITION, IT'D BE A DISASTER, RIGHT?

I'M SORRY, BUT I HAVE NO INTENTION OF HELPING YOU OUT WITH EGG-LAYING.
It's not like I'd want to become things like that either!
Go extinct in peace.
I'M NOT GOING TO GO LAY EGGS JUST BECAUSE I HAVE BOOBS!

Make eye contact
YOU CAN'T EVEN MEET MY GAZE, HOW ARE YOU GOING TO FOLLOW THROUGH FOR ME IN BATTLE!
F... FOR NOW, LET'S SEARCH FOR PIMP AND WE CAN WORRY ABOUT THAT LATER.


When swinging it down, the weight of my chest will be a burden.
WITH A CHEST LIKE THIS, I WON'T BE ABLE TO SWING AN AXE WELL...
And I won't be able to swing it straight up
I... I'LL FOLLOW YOU IN BATTLE

CHANGING GENDERS WITHOUT TURNING FIRST INTO A COCOON
IN YOUR CASE IT'S WHAT YOU'D CALL AN IM-PERFECT METAMOR-PHOSIS*
Like I'd become cocoon! Disgusting
THE MEANING MIGHT BE DIFFERENT, BUT IT PISSES ME OFF YOU CALLED ME A PERVERT!
IT'S NOT LIKE I'M AZIAN—

*変態 (hentai) can mean either metamorphosis or pervert, which is what Katari is referring to

ACH—
AZIAN!
WHY ARE YOU IN A PLACE LIKE—
...THERE SURE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE INTERRUPTING MY SNEEZES TODAY...
I CHANGED MY MIND... AND I'M TAKING A BREAK FROM WORK
IT'S JUST A COINCI-DENCE...
I HAD INTENDED TO JUST DO SOME NORMAL CLAN WORK, BUT...

I SAW SOMETHING THAT I COULDN'T OVER-LOOK...
ALTHOUGH IT WAS PROBABLY JUST A PRANK DRAWING ON THE WALL
UMM... THIS IS GOING TO SOUND WEIRD, BUT...
THAT FISH-MAN FROM YOUR GROUP...
IS HE ACTUALLY A SHE?

AFTER BEING CONSTANTLY IGNORED BY MARIA,
HE FINALLY LOST IT...
I...
I'LL INTRODUCE YOU TO A GOOD ASYLUM?
I'll have to decline.
ALRIGHT, WE CAN STOP WITH THIS TOPIC.
BY THE WAY, WHERE IS MARIA? I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM LATELY.
!
THAT'S RIGHT... MARIA...
IS WITH... KATARI...
THEY ENTERED THIS WALL...
!!!
MARIA AS WELL?!

ㄱ=!
HEEEY!
PIIIIMP!
AH, WELL...
AS LONG AS ALL OF YOU
SAW THE SAME STRANGE THING THAT I DID
THEN IT'S FINE.

WHO?
THE CREATOR OF THIS HOTEL...
I CAN'T TELL IF IT'S A SEALED LABYRINTH OR JUST AN ILLUSION
WHAT WERE THEY TRYING TO ACHIEVE BY CREATING THIS HOTEL AND EVERYTHING IN HERE?
BUT WHEN IT COMES TO CREATURES THAT CAN MAKE THE MOST OF THEIR ABILITIES HERE IN DI
DEMONS...?

YEAH,
MOST PROBABLY
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
THERE WAS A SIGN WELCOMING EVERYONE FROM ZOO IN THE LOBBY
Welcome, everyone from ZOO. Please enjoy your stay.
COULD IT BE SOME-ONE WHO KNOWS US—
P!!!MP!
"ZOO" WAS WRITTEN ON THE SIGN?
IT'S US! FROM ZOO!
IT'S OK TO COME OUT NOW!

AH, THAT'S RIGHT, THE SIGN—
OH, SHUT UP ALREADY, KATARI!
I MAY HAVE MASSIVE BOOBS NOW, BUT IT'S ME! KATARI!
OH, THAT? I WROTE IT.
HUH?!
WELL I WAS IN QUITE THE SITUATION AND WAS FEELING LONELY, SO—
I THOUGHT THAT IT WOULD BE FUN IF EVERYONE COULD COME.

TH... THAT RUINED MY TRAIN OF THOUGHT.
IT'S WEIRD THAT ONLY WE WERE LET INSIDE
YOU STOLE THE PEN THAT YOU BOR-ROWED*?
SO, BEFORE I KNEW IT, I HAD USED THIS PEN THAT I FOUND
AT THE RECEPTION DESK.

*借りパク is a shortened form of 借りる, meaning to borrow (借りる) and steal (盗く). So put it together and it means to steal something you borrowed! (Kari-pakuru)

My love is on its way to blossoming. But it seems like there is still a long way to go.
IT'D BE AWESOME TO STAY HERE, ESPECIALLY WITH YOUR LOVER!
RIGHT?
WELL...
IT'S NOT "ESPECIALLY" WITH YOUR LOVER...
HUH?
IT'S MORE LIKE...
Matching pairs...

WHOAA! IT'S SO FLUFFY!
A ROOM THAT YOU COULDN'T STAY IN WITH ANYONE BUT YOUR LOVER?!

AT FIRST I THOUGHT THIS WAS A TRAVELLER'S HOTEL FOR RESTING, BUT...
NOW I GET IT...

PIMP ISN'T HERE
LET'S CHECK OUT THE OTHER ROOMS
Tomato kun!
Throw aside your sword and hurry~ I need you to come to me~
JUST KIDDI—
BEEP

I KNEW IT.
AN ENEMY
— HAS CHANGED ONE OF OUR COMRADES INTO A MONSTER AND IS TRYING TO GET US TO KILL EACH OTHER.
INDEED— HOW FRIGHTENING
WAIT, JUST WHO ARE YOU CALLING A MONSTER?!
I was trying to lighten up the mood!!
YEAH, WHATEVER. JUST HURRY UP AND COME
HALF-FISH WOMAN.

OH?
Welcome everyone from ZOO. Please enjoy your stay
IF YOU LOOK CLOSE-LY...
THE ROOM NAMES ARE PRETTY CRAZY...
"THE ROOM OF GROWING LOVE".

enjoy your stay.
IT LOOKS LIKE WE'VE GONE IN A CIRCLE.
AH... THE LIZARD FROM THE SNACK...
PHEW...

BOOBS ARE HEAVY.
WHY DON'T YOU RIP THEM OFF AND THROW THEM AWAY?

PIMP... I WONDER IF WE PASSED EACH OTHER BY WITHOUT NOTICING...
OR IT COULD BE—

YURIKA AND SAFINIA...
MIGHT HAVE COME IN AFTER US
IT MIGHT BE BETTER IF WE DIDN'T MOVE AROUND SO CARELESSLY
HONESTLY
THAT'S TRUE
LET'S WAIT HERE THEN
A VACATION, HUH...
NO, EVEN IF EVERYONE ONE CAME I DON'T THINK THEY'D BE ABLE TO RELAX IN PEACE
THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN MORE OF A VACATION* IF EVERYONE HAD COME

* Technically 慰安旅行 is an incentive trip which is usually offered to employees of a company so they work harder etc, it's a Japanese thing apparently

IF ALL OF US WERE COMING ALONG,
I'D LIKE TO GO TO THE BEACH
THERE ARE NO BEACHES IN ELDEN
THE BEACH HUH THAT'S A GOOD IDEA.
WE COULD ALL EAT SEA SNAILS COOKED IN THEIR OWN SHELL
How youthful
THE BEACH HUH
WELL, THAT IS IF WE CAN GET OUT OF HERE SAFELY.
BUT SERIOUSLY
WHY DON'T YOU JUST SWIM NAKED?
If you used shells, it'd be one-size FITS all
A swimsuit... I wonder if they have one for my size...
WHICH ONE DO YOU THINK SUITS ME BETTER? A BIKINI OR A ONE-PIECE?

TOMATO-KUN...
THAT'S...
THIS THING DIDN'T WARD OFF DISASTER AT ALL
DID I GET SCAMMED?
It's h-f
IT'S THE SAME AS PIMP'S...
AAHH!! CRAP!!!

MYSTERIES OF FISH
I LEFT IT BEHIND! MY BOOK ON THE MYSTERIES OF FISH!
WHAT? THAT WEIRD BOOK?
IT'S PROBABLY STILL IN THAT ROOM WE WERE IN JUST NOW!
IT WAS IN THE WAY WHEN I WAS MAKING A SEXY POSE...
SO I MOVED IT OUT OF THE WAY, BUT...

Take care.
BYE-BYE.
NO, I'VE GOT TO GET IT BA—

IT SHOULD BE SAFE WHILE IT'S LIGHT.
Be at ease and be...
What happened, chivalry?!
A GIRL LIKE ME WILL BE IN DANGER ALL BY HERSELF!
I'M A GIRL NOW, AREN'T I?!
And one with a ton'a'bout sexy body!
COME ON, LET'S GO TOGETHER?
.....
HEY, LADY!
BUT PIMP MIGHT PASS HERE.

IT SHOULD BE FINE IF WE LEAVE A MESSAGE.
WHAT WAS THE ROOM CALLED?
It should be fine on this's on since it stands out so much
ポン
"THE ROOM OF GROWING LOVE"?
Hmmm
YEAH. AND "WE'LL BE WAITING"... OKAY!
NOW TO LEAVE IT WHERE IT STANDS OUT
THIS SHOULD BE OK, RIGHT?
DOESN'T IT SEEM A BIT PLAIN TO YOU?
MEET UP AT THE ROOM OF LOVE GROWING!
Welcome, everyon
from ZOO. Pleas
enjoy your stay.

IF WE DON'T DO THIS MUCH PIMP WILL PROBABLY WOULN'T EVEN NOTICE
CIRCLE THE PARTS WE WANT TO EMPHASIZE WITH RED AND...
MEET AT THE ROOM OF GROWING LOVE!
we'll be waiting!
ATTENTION!
ATTEN-TION!
Meet up!
Welcome, everyo
from ZOO. Pl
NOW THEN LET'S GO!
IT FEELS LIKE... A RAFFLE OR SOMETHING
If it was me I'd be bullied and never get picked to win
...SIGH

TURNS OUT WE DIDN'T GET TO DO SOME WORK THIS TIME, EITHER
LET'S HURRY UP AND SOLVE THIS SO WE CAN DIVE INTO THE LABY-RINTH.
OR, SHOULD I HOOK YOU UP WITH MORE PART-TIME JOBS?
NO, I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF PAR—

TOMATO-KUN...?
WHAT'S WRONG?
...I CAN FEEL A PRESENCE.

...COULD IT BE... PIMP? HE MIGHT HAVE SEEN THE MESSAGE.
AND GOTTEN HERE BEFORE US, WHO WROTE THAT MESSAGE?
NOT TO MENTION, PIMP DOESN'T HAVE A PRESENCE.
...I DON'T KNOW.
IT'S COMING FROM INSIDE THAT ROOM.
BUT JUST IN CASE,
BE READY TO MOVE AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE.
...IS IT AN ENEMY?

…
ガチャ

...
MARIA!

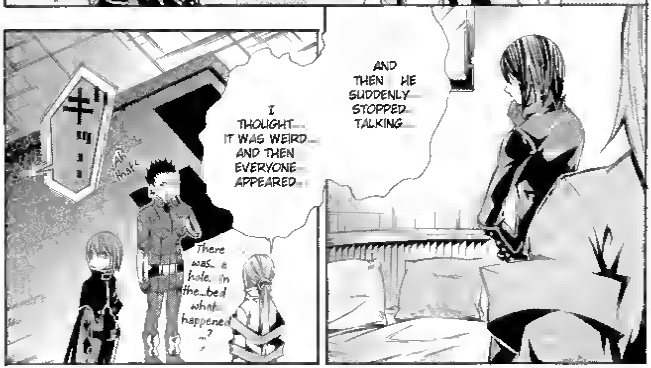
THOSE... SERIOUS EYES...
I'LL DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT, SO...
NO...
AM I GOING TO GET HUGGED?!
WAIT HERE!
...HUH?

*Maria says this in Kansai ben, which is the same way Kaitari talks.

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU GUYS?
EXPLAIN IT SO WE CAN UNDERSTAND.
THAT'S... MORE LIKE WHAT WE SHOULD... BE SAYING TO YOU...
WE COINCIDENTALLY... MET WITH AZIAN,
AND WE SEARCHED FOR MARIA TOGETHER, BUT...
Mar a-! Mar aaa-! It's me Azan!
Ummm, where'd... this strange phenomenon... Maria... Maria is all he says...
Falling in love and becoming an id iot are written in the same character in Japanese.

MYSTERIES OF
Special Edition: Mimicry and Gender
SO... WE SEARCHED THIS ROOM. BUT...
HERE WE FOUND THIS BOOK... AND THOUGHT THAT... SOMETHING... MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED TO... KATARI...

Ah, my heart aches!
A...ed, huh...
HALFWAY THROUGH... HE STARTED... TO HAVE... DELUSIONS...


Ah, my heart...
There was a hole in the...bed what happened...?
I THOUGHT... IT WAS WEIRD... AND THEN EVERYONE APPEARED...
AND THEN HE SUDDENLY STOPPED TALKING...

STEP
GUYS...
ARE YOU HERE?
PIMP!
THANK GOODNESS... YOU HAVE NO PRESENCE.
SO IT WAS HARD TO FIND YOU!
I SAW... YOUR MESSAGE.

"LUNCH-TIME"... HAS ALREADY LEFT.
AH, YEAH
I KNOW
PIMP!
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

ARE YOU GOING TO WAIT HERE,
LIKE AZIAN SAID?
!
AFTER ALL THE RIDICULOUS THINGS THAT HAVE HAPPENED SO FAR,
THERE'S NO WAY I COULD JUST SIT BACK HERE AND WAIT.
NO MATTER WHO THE CULPRIT IS BEHIND THIS, I'M GOING TO GIVE HIM A BEATING.
...

EH?
EEEEH?!
WHAT'S WRONG SAFINA?
NO... I... IT'S NOTHING...
?
LET'S GO
AND CHASE AFTER AZIAN
"AN UNBELIEVABLE DISASTER"...
LITTLE DID I KNOW THAT AWAITING US...
WAS THE FINISHING BLOW...

Going underground
Time to make money!
AS USUAL, I'M OFF TO WORK TO EXPLORE LABYRINTHS!
...BUT, WHEN I GOT THERE...
last chapter MARY'S PLAYER
西条大旅店
FOR SOME REASON, IT TURNED OUT TO BE A HOTEL FOR TRAVELLERS
AND EVERY-ONE WAS THERE
"HUH? ISN'T THIS JUST LIKE A VACATION?"
AS IF,
IF IT WAS, THERE'S NO WAY I'D GO...

last chapter MARY'S PLAYER

Fish
Crucian carp
WHAT HAPPENED WAS THE UNEXPECTED SEX CHANGE OF ONE OF MY COMRADES.
Fresh Fish
Tuna
Fishy fish
Fish
I'LL DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!
AND THE CHASING OF THE SELF-ABSORBED PERVERTED STALKER.
THIS HAS TURNED INTO QUITE A FREAK SHOW...
AH...
HOLD ON A SECOND, T-MAT- KUN...

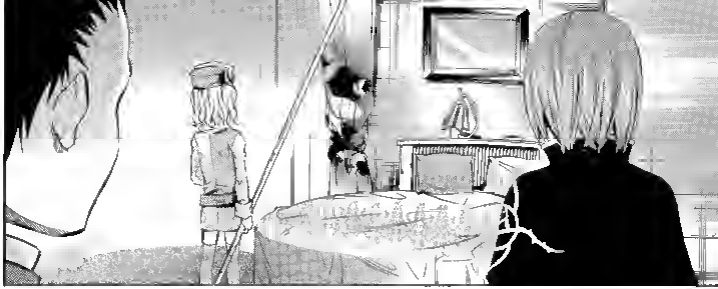
IT'S FINE THAT WE'RE CHASING AFTER AZIAN, BUT...
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS AS TO WHERE HE'S HEADED?
NOPE.
...
IT'S JUST LIKE I SAID. WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER IF WE JUST WAIT FOR HIM?
RIGHT?
EH...? YES
WOULDN'T HE COME IF YOU LET OUT A SCREAM?
LIKE HELL I WOULD.

YEAH... AT A TIME LIKE THIS
IF WE'RE ALL MOVING AROUND,
WE'RE LESS LIKELY TO MEET UP
Worst case scenario we'd never meet up
THAT'S RIGHT.
THAT IS WHY AZIAN
TOLD US TO WAIT FOR HIM IN THAT ROOM OVER THERE
THE FACT THAT HE SAID HE'LL DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT...
COULD HE HAVE...

FIGURED OUT THE CAUSE OF THIS DISAS-TER?
HE MAY BE A PERVERT BUT HE'S THE KIND OF PERSON WHO WOULDN'T ACT WITHOUT THINKING
WHICH WOULD MEAN THAT...
THERE MIGHT BE A CLUE IN THIS ROOM OF GROWING LOVE...

Hmurgh...
"MY FEELINGS MIGHT TAKE SOME TIME TO BLOSSOM, BUT THEY SHALL BLOSSOM WITHOUT FAIL."
My feelings might take some time to blossom, but they shall blossom without fail.

EVERYONE, LOOK AT THIS!!!
IF YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT THE BED, THAT'S BECAUSE KATARI MADE A SICK POSE.
THEY SURE WROTE SOME NICE STUFF HERE.
SO YOU SHOULD BE READY FOR THE LONG HAUL WHEN IT COMES TO LOVE
I'll take it to heart.
what clingy poetry
DOESN'T THAT JUST SOUND PERSISTENT?



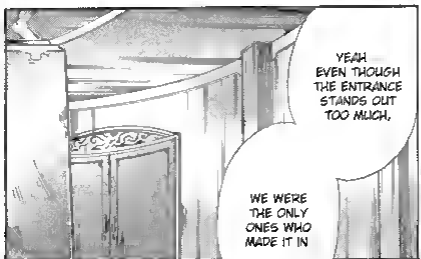
是否至于变态各位
双趣已经 一旦变态完毕
到变态的邸宅 请来大澡堂
西施大酒店
"WELCOME TO THE TRANSFORMATION HOTEL"
"HAVE YOU ALL COMPLETED YOUR TRANSFORMATIONS?"

"UPON COMPLETING YOUR TRANSFORMATION, PROCEED TO THE BATH-HOUSE."
HEY...
WHAT IS THIS, A CHALLENGE?!
WHAT DO THEY MEAN BY "EVERYONE"?! I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO GOT HIS SEX CHANGED!
RIGHT?!
WHY DO THEY SEEM KIND OF DISAPPOINTED?!
IT'S COMPLETELY FLAT... THAT'S NO FUN
YEAH.
it's all muscular...
FOR THE MOMENT, I DON'T HAVE ANY CHANGES TOO...

UMM... I... I...
I— IT'S THE SAME AS ALWAYS— GOT IT?!
Flat chest
IT LOOKS LIKE EVERY-ONE IS STILL THE SAME
NO— THERE IS A CHANGE!
SAFINIA! THAT CHEST!

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR CHE—
PICK UP ON HOW A WOMAN FEELS!
Don't think that just 'cause you are naturally handsome you will get off the hook for everything!!!
Chief Kippers
?
SAFINIA, YOU...
I-IT HAS GOTTEN TO THE POINT WHERE I'D LIKE TO DENY THIS DEVELOPMENT...
F-FOR THE MOMENT,
WHY DON'T WE GO BEAT UP WHOEVER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS?
THEY'RE SO BIG, IT'S DISGUSTING...
ARE YOU PICKING A FIGHT, PIMP?

I WONDER WHAT THEIR OBJECTIVE WAS?
THE PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING THIS PLACE
BUT TO BE HONEST...


WE WERE THE ONLY ONES WHO MADE IT IN
YEAH EVEN THOUGH THE ENTRANCE STANDS OUT TOO MUCH,

IT WOULD BE SAFE TO THINK THAT IT'S SOMEONE WHO HAS SOMETHING AGAINST US
WELL...
THAT ASIDE, WHAT BOTHERS ME THE MOST IS—

TO THE BATH-HOUSE!
LET'S GO!

HOW CHANGING PEOPLE'S SEX IS OF ANY BENEFIT TO THE PERPETRATOR.
There isn't actually anything great ab... big boobs.
Not that it'll be a problem or anything.

JUDGING BY THE LEVEL OF DETAIL, IT MUST BE THE WORK OF A FANATIC
A FANATIC WITH A GRUDGE AGAINST US—
HAHA.
IMPOSSIBLE

大漢堂

WA!
WH...?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING AZIAN?

I TOLD YOU TO WAIT IN THE ROOM...
WHY DID YOU COME, MARIA ROSE?!
THE GENDER BENDER MANSION
DON'T TELL ME THAT—

WHAT?

"We have a winner" was you with the forehead's reasoning.
NOT AT ALL.
THE CULPRIT IS PROBABLY
WE HAVE A WINNER
YOU'RE THE CULPRIT?!
DON'T SAY THINGS LIKE THAT WITH A STRIAGHT FACE!!
Beh ind this pervert hotel...
ス！
SO THEY'VE FINALLY GATHERED ...
!?

I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS MOMENT.
IT HAS BEEN A WHILE, HASN'T IT...
MARIA ROSE?

THIS GUY... HE'S THE DEMON FROM THE ART GALLERY LABYRINTH!
WHY...
YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN DEFEATED!
DUMBAAAASS. DO YOU SERIOUSLY THINK A DEMON LIKE ME WOULD DIE JUST BECAUSE I LOST AN ARM?
ALL OF YOU WANTING TO ENTER THIS FAKE HOTEL...
ALL YOU CRACKERS ARE SUCH IDIOTS.

But you were the only one invited~ ♡
Today's the day you will pay for what you've done...
My grudge against you...
For making my beautiful skin and arm like this!
What's with this tenta-cle?
Ugh...
It's got amazing power...!!
I knew it was you...

YOU SURE HAVE SOME SICK HOBBIES, MAKING A PLACE LIKE THIS HERE IN D1.
WHEN I HEARD ABOU IT, I THOUGHT THAT JUST MAYBE...
DON'T MOVE.
OR THIS TIME, I'LL MERCILESSLY SQUEEZE HER TO DEATH.
...!!!
LAST TIME I HELD BACK BECAUSE OF YOUR GOOD LOOKS.
BUT NOW YOU'RE A DETESTABLE WOMAN, AREN'T YOU?
HEY...
DON'T YOU THINK IT WAS A GREAT IDEA?

CHANGING THOSE HANDSOME LOOKS OF YOURS WHICH MADE ME LET MY GUARD DOWN...
INTO THAT OF A GIRL'S AND THEN CRUSHING YOU..
AND CHANGING ALL THE FILTHY WOMEN INTO MEN
TO LESSEN MY DISCOMFORT AT HAVING LET YOU IN...
...
AS MUCH AS I'D LIKE TO ENJOY SLOWLY TORTURING YOU TO DEATH...
YOU'RE NOT WORTH TEASING AS A FEMALE.
HOW THOUGHTLESS OF ME.
...? WHAT?
IS THE SPELL NOT WORKING?

...
It seems that the spell is working on some ...
and not on others ...
But that's nothing to worry about
You will all slowly change sex.
And as long as I'm alive, you will never return to normal
They're all holding back because of me ...
I
I need to create an ending!

...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY...
"SLOWLY"?
...HOW FOOLISH.
"CHANGE" IS GROWTH...
A YOUNG MAN WON'T TURN INTO AN OLD MAN OVERNIGHT.
EVERYTHING HAS THEIR OWN PROCESS
寒瑳暴挑剥
Reula外
A SPELL INCANTATION...
I'VE GOT TO BUY A BIT MORE TIME...
OH... UM...
W-WELL

WHAT SORT OF YOUNG MEN DO YOU LIKE EXACTLY?
TELL ME BEFORE I DIE.
MY!
HOW RESOLUTE
I MIGHT REGRET KILLING YOU.
Judas
NauRa着
YES...
LET'S SEE... FAIR COMPLEXION WITH A DARK CHARACTER...
THE MORE I THINK ABOUT IT, THE MORE I WANT HIM...
ALSO, THAT LADY WITH LONG HAIR IS..
悲氷結龍
寒冷…

SAFINIA...
LOOK OUT!!!
HEY...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING CHANTING A SPELL!!!

I... WON'T... FORGIVE ...
ANY...
OF YOU...
AH
ALL RIGHT!!!

MY BOOBS ARE GONE!
HAHA THAT'S A RELIEF...
SERIOUSLY
IT REALLY IS...
A RELIEF...
GEEZ, YOU'RE ALWAYS LIKE THIS
squish

EVEN THOUGH I TOLD YOU TO WAIT...
IF THIS WAS THE WORK OF A DEMON THEN ITS TARGETS WERE US
YOU'D BE SAFER WITH EVERYONE FROM ZOO
A... AZIAN
WHAT IS IT, MARIA?
TH... THERE'S SOMETHING SOFT HITTING MY BACK...
"AS LONG AS I'M ALIVE, YOU WON'T RETURN TO NORMAL!"
!
!
THEN, THAT MEANS

THE DEMON...
IS STILL ALIVE...

YOU!!
IT'S ALWAYS LIKE THIS!
Again the wall.
IT'S ALWAYS ME THAT GETS PROTECTED!

LIKE I'D STAND...
FOR THAT!

NOW THEN...
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
IT'S STILL PRETTY EARLY IF WE WORK HARD.
WE COULD STILL RAID A DUNGEON?
YEAH
WHAT DO YOU GUYS THINK...

OR MAYBE NOT...
It seems mentally impossible for them at the moment.

I WONDER IF THERE'S A DOCTOR WHO COULD ERASE ALL MY MEMORIES OF TODAY.
I'll pay as much as you want if you could introduce me to one.
Uhhh...
HOW SHOULD I PUT THIS... I CAN... STILL FEEL THEM TOUCHING MY BACK...
SORRY... I'VE TAKEN HEAVY PSYCHOLOGICAL DAMAGE...

JUST TAKE A LOOK AT HIM.
I... "IT'S THE SAME AS ALWAYS"... WAS... QUITE...
WHAT, DID YOU WANT A SEX CHANGE TOO?
WHAT ARE YOU SO UPSET ABOUT?
What a strange person...

HE'S GOT AN UNPRECE-DENTED AIR OF EMPTI-NESS
He looks like he's fading away
THAT'S WHY... I TOLD YOU...
THAT I WOULD HANDLE IT BY MYSELF ...
"THAT'S WHY" ?
SO IT'S BECAUSE YOU WERE TOO EMBARRASSED ABOUT TURN-ING INTO A WOMAN
THAT YOU DECIDED TO RUN OFF BY YOURSELF, HUH?
I DIDN'T FULLY TURN INTO A WOMAN, ONLY A LITTLE!

I... DON'T WANT YOU TO SEE ME WHEN I'M IN SUCH A PITIFUL STATE
YOUR REGULAR PERVERTED SELF IS PRETTY PITIFUL
IT'S HARD TO UNDER-STAND THE FEELINGS OF A WEIRDO!

HEY
DIDN'T YOU USE TO SAY,
THAT WHETHER I'M MALE OR FEMALE,
HAVE LARGE BREASTS OR HAVE ONE THAT IS AS FLAT AS A BOARD. IT DOESN'T MATTER?
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHETHER YOU'RE A PERVERT OR NOT.
NO MATTER WHAT YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE YOU.
IT'S THE SAME FOR ME.
TO ME
YOU ARE

THAT'S RIGHT.
.....
THE WORST STALKER EVER!
AND I'LL AVOID YOU WITH ALL MY MIGHT.
JUST AS I HAVE UNTIL NOW, AND JUST AS I WILL IN THE FUTURE!
I... SEE.
My clothes have stretched.

TODAY'S BEEN A NIGHT-MARE THANKS TO YOU.
FUFU...
AH...
YOU GUYS WERE COMPA-NIONS?
ALL OF YOU?
IS THIS...
A TALISMAN OF SORTS?
YES—!
IT ONLY WORKS ON ILLUSIONS, THOUGH...

SO THAT'S WHY WE WERE PERFECTLY FINE
THANK GOD
I... IF WE HAD HEARD THE WARNING, TOO, THEN...
I wouldn't have had to go through growing boobs.
THE WARNING I GAVE YOU
AND THE WARNING I GAVE THEM... WERE DIFFERENT.
HUH?
I GAVE YOU A WARNING BASED MORE ON WHAT IS YET TO COME
WHAT IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN...
I'm not going to buy a charm or anything, y'know?
AM I GOING TO BE THE ONLY ONE WHO WILL MEET A HORRIBLE FATE AGAIN?
!

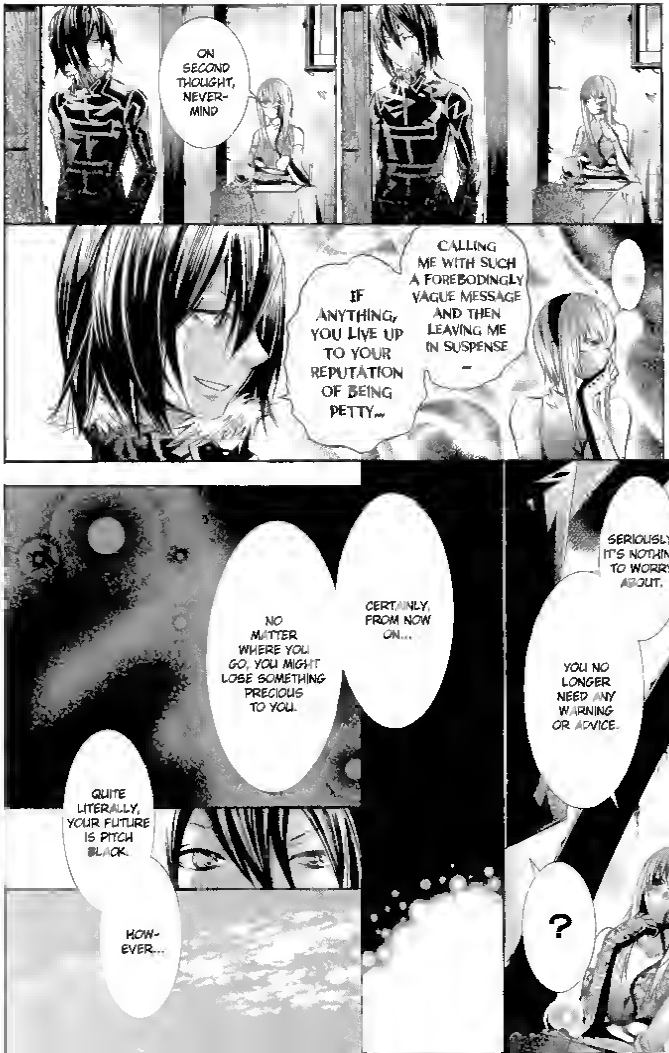
WHAT IS?!
YES. IT LOOKS LIKE IT MIGHT ALREADY BE TOO LATE...
THE PATH YOU'RE HEADING
THE BLACK EXISTENCE THAT CHASES AFTER YOU...
I FEEL THAT IT'S GAINING MOMENTUM
HOW THAT EXISTENCE ENDS UP DEPENDS ON YOU!

HAVE YOU DONE ANYTHING
THAT COULD HAVE ENCOURAGED
THAT BLACK EXISTENCE?
I THOUGHT HE WASN'T FEELING WELL AND THUS LEFT EARLY ...
ISN'T THAT WHAT HE SAID? OUR MASTER, THAT IS
I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED...
WHEN HE RETURNED HE WAS ALREADY LIKE THAT

SO YOU THINK YOU CAN ESCAPE AT FULL SPEED, HMM?
I CAN DO THAT, TOO!
HE SEEMS MORE PUMPED UP THAN I'VE EVER SEEN HIM BEFORE
I'LL CHASE YOU WITH ALL MY MIGHT FROM NOW ON!!
IT'S ALL BECAUSE THAT FORTUNE TELLER SAID THOSE STRANGE THINGS
I JUST GOT A CHILL DOWN MY SPINE...
ANYTHING THAT COULD HAVE "ENCOURAGED" HIM ?
ALL I REMEMBER IS DISCOURAGING HIM...

END

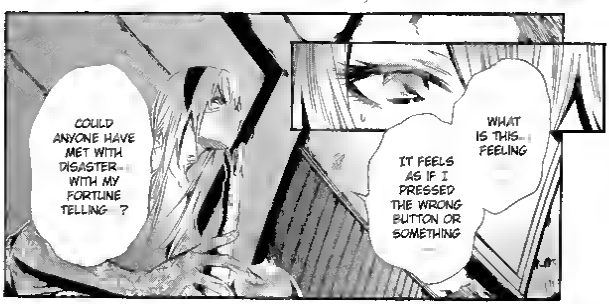
WHAT?
WE'RE REALLY GOING TO THE BEACH? YOU MEAN THE HARBOUR TOWN JEDORI WITH EVERYONE?
WHY THE SUDDEN TRIP?
I RECEIVED A LETTER FROM AN OLD ACQUAINTANCE.
WE MIGHT STAY THERE FOR A WHILE
IF YOU HAVE ANY PEOPLE CLOSE TO YOU, YOU SHOULD GO SAY YOUR FAREWELLS
NO WAY THE MOST I'VE DONE FOR HIM IS LEAVE A BIT OF ROOM IN MY HOUSE!
HE'S NOT SOMEONE I WOULD BE WORRYING ABOUT
IT'S NOT AS IF
I PARTICULARLY
YOU
YOU WILL LOSE SOMETHING PRECIOUS TO YOU


ON SECOND THOUGHT, NEVER-MIND
CALLING ME WITH SUCH A FOREBODINGLY VAGUE MESSAGE AND THEN LEAVING ME IN SUSPENSE —
IF ANYTHING, YOU LIVE UP TO YOUR REPUTATION OF BEING PETTY...
SERIOUSLY, IT'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
YOU NO LONGER NEED ANY WARNING OR ADVICE.
?
CERTAINLY, FROM NOW ON...
NO MATTER WHERE YOU GO, YOU MIGHT LOSE SOMETHING PRECIOUS TO YOU.
QUITE LITERALLY, YOUR FUTURE IS PITCH BLACK.
HOW-EVER...

YOU ARE YOU.
YOU SHOULD ALREADY KNOW WHERE TO LOOK.
TO FIND THE LIGHT SHINING IN THE DARK-NESS.
AM I RIGHT?
AZIAN, I LOVE YOU!
Made up

WHAT WAS THAT JUST NOW.
DID A BIRD HIT OR SOME-THING
Ultimate Love Ribbon
"You are my light no matter where you are, I shall find you."

Ah...
THAT HURTS, MARIA! ♥
DON'T LET OUT SUCH A HAPPY VOICE!
DON'T BLACKMAIL ME WITH SUCH MISLEADING WORDS!
TAKE IT WITH YOU. I DON'T WANT ANY OF IT!
U... "ULTIMATE LOVE" GAIDEN
"YOU ARE MY LIGHT NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE, I SHALL FIND YOU!"


COULD ANYONE HAVE MET WITH DISASTER WITH MY FORTUNE TELLING...?
IT FEELS AS IF I PRESSED THE WRONG BUTTON OR SOMETHING...
WHAT IS THIS... FEELING

HELP WANTED

The fabulous Kingdom of Iskultrip Scans is in need of more servants fitting to serve le King! We are calling for ***TRANSLATORS***, ***EDITORS***, and ***SCANNERS*** from all walks of life! Due to certain circumstances, those who are experts in their crafts are heeded to apply!

For more information, visit the reception at http://iskultrip.maryfaye.net and inquire NOW!

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